

LANDMARKS

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Government of the District of Columbia Adrian M. Fenty, Mayor



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HISTORIC HOMEOWNER GRANT PROGRAM EXPANDS

Needs-based grants to owners of historic homes are now available in 12 historic districts. The Historic Preservation Office recently announced the first recipients of historic homeowner grants in the Anacostia Historic District, which were awarded during the pilot phase of the project. The grant program targets low- and moderate-income homeowners in the following historic districts: Anacostia, Blagden Alley/Naylor Court, Capitol Hill, Greater Fourteenth Street, Greater U Street, LeDroit Park, Mount

Pleasant, Mount Vernon Square, Mount Vernon Triangle, Shaw, Strivers' Section, and Takoma Park.

Grants cover repair and preservation of exterior features, such as exterior walls and siding, windows, roofs, cornices, porches, steps, fences, and masonry, or for such structural repairs like rebuilding a sagging floor or repairing a failed foundation.

The applications (parts I & II) are available on the Historic Preservation Office website at <http://planning.dc.gov/hpo> (select Financial Incentives and Resources) or by contacting Program coordinator Brendan Meyer may be reached at (202) 442-8800 or e-mail Brendan.Meyer@dc.gov. A timetable of deadlines and a fact sheet on the program are also available on the website. ♦



Photo Credit: DCHPO



Photo Credit: DCHPO

Homeowners of historic properties from Blagden Alley/Naylor Court (top) to Takoma Park (bottom) historic districts are now eligible to apply for financial assistance through the Targeted Historic Homeowner Grant Program.

FOXHALL VILLAGE DESIGNATED



Photo Credit: EHT traceries, Inc.

The Foxhall Village development is the newest historic district in the District of Columbia

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GREETINGS FROM THE SHPO

Since the announcement of my selection as State Historic Preservation Officer I have repeatedly been asked the question "What took you so long to apply?" The reasons are both personal and professional, but a primary enticement was the city's recent commitment of substantial new resources to the program. The new administration and Council have continued the strong support we enjoyed from our former Mayor, Council, and colleagues at the Office of



David Maloney, *State Historic Preservation Officer.*

Photo Credit: HPO

Planning, and taken it to a new level. This is a great opportunity for historic preservation in DC, and I plan to make the most of it.

First on my agenda is to complete the hiring we need to bring the office to its full strength. We now have four vacant positions for both senior and entry level professionals-nearly a one-third increase in staff. We are hearing from many strong candidates, and very soon we expect to welcome talented individuals to join our superb new city archaeologist, Dr. Ruth Troccoli, as our most recent newcomers. We also plan to offer several contracts for part-time assistance in key program areas. The HPO staff is already fantastic, and this new expertise will make us even better.

There is much work to be done. My top priority is to focus on our core mission: customer service. We plan to overhaul our website, get out into the community to talk with ANCs and neighborhood groups, and work closely with DCRA to improve permitting and enforcement processes. We are brushing up our public information handouts, making our data more accessible to researchers, and writing new guidelines to help homeowners and businesses understand good preservation practices. We are reviewing our day-to-day operations from top to bottom to make sure that as the office expands we will continue to deliver sound and consistent guidance to the constituents who rely on our fairness and professionalism.

Preservation is fuel to the city's economic development engine, and a key role for our office is to work with both public and private partners to keep that engine tuned and running. On the public side, we are forging new relationships with fellow DC agencies as we implement the now mandatory good business model of early consultation on preservation issues. Within OP, as Harriet Tregoning synthesizes preservation and sustainability, our daily coordination with our planning colleagues continues to grow. And our critical role in finding the middle ground between

developers and preservationists will always define our mission. The newest tool in that effort is the D.C. Index of Places of Historic Interest, a listing of potentially eligible properties that is about to be issued in a second edition covering the entire central city.

But as beneficial as development has been to the city at large, there are many who are squeezed by rising values and costs. Our most important new program is the grant fund for low- and moderate-income homeowners-in dollars alone, it accounts for more than one third of our budget. We have already received an overwhelming community response in our first round of grants open to the residents of historic Anacostia. Nearly one third of homeowners applied, and we are about to select awardees from the 61 applications that made it to the second stage of review.

We also plan to explore the city's heritage in other ways. Our partnerships with the DC Preservation League and DC Humanities Council help us reach out to the community through programs like the Mayor's Preservation Awards and DC Community Heritage Project. This year's awards ceremony at the Atlas Theater and heritage symposium at Thurgood Marshall Academy were both filled to capacity. The awards help us honor not just the professionals in preservation, but newcomers like the Howard students who investigated the burial ground at Walter Pierce Park. At the symposium, this year's group of small heritage grant awardees-one from each ward, and less than \$2,000 each-presented stupendous projects ranging from Anacostia oral histories to Palisades archaeology, from a Shaw history coloring book to uncovering the life of Military Road's "Aunt Betty." We plan to support more of these projects.

Finally, I would like to extend my most sincere thanks to everyone who has wished me well in the past several months. I greatly appreciate your expressions of support and confidence, and ask for your patience as I learn new tasks and the office ramps up to its full capacity. This is a dynamic time for our city, and I am both proud and excited to be able to do my part. ❖

AMERICAN HERITAGE TRAIL SIGNAGE CELEBRATED

Office of Planning Director Harriet Tregoning was one of several speakers at Founders Hall on the campus of Howard University on October 24 when Cultural Tourism DC unveiled one of 35 new signs for the popular African American Heritage Trail.

"The Historic Preservation Office/Office of Planning provided start-up costs related to the print brochure and website profiling the African

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COMMUNITY OUTREACH UPDATE

by Patsy Fletcher

In June this year, the DC Chapter of the National Association of Minority Architects (DC NOMA) established a committee for historic preservation as part of its advisory board. For those of you who may be unfamiliar with NOMA, the national organization was established in 1971 by design professionals of color to work together to overcome the discriminatory policies that limited or barred minority architects from participating in design and construction programs. There is a strong DC connection in that several founders graduated from Howard University's School of Architecture. At least two of its twelve founders practiced in Washington - Leroy Campbell and Robert Nash. A third, John Chase, was the first African American appointed to the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts.

I have been conducting outreach to DC NOMA over the past two years beginning with a presentation in the fall of 2005 with historian Marya McQuirter on the African American Heritage Trail and sites related to African American architects and engineers. I made a plea for the involvement of members in local communities that had endangered resources such as Deanwood, Congress Heights and Shaw East. I later made a presentation on the process for landmarking a building and advocated for the establishment of a committee to foster work on historic preservation issues. Since that time members of NOMA have become involved in working on landmarking several historic black churches and in developing an application for a historic district. In addition, members of the chapter have participated in the several of the DC Community Heritage symposia seeking more information on historic preservation.

The Historic Preservation Committee was established to advocate for a greater role of the DC NOMA membership in local historic preservation, especially in communities with unprotected resources, or in the promotion of the legacy of African American architects of Washington DC. At the same time, it is the hope of the committee to be able to promote minority architects with experience in historic preservation or to create opportunities for them to be mentored in the field. The committee is recruiting students from Howard University School of Architecture and plans to develop a directory of local architects and other design professionals with historic preservation expertise. A recent action of the committee was the referral of a member architect



Patsy Fletcher,
Community Outreach
Coordinator.

Photo Credit: HPO

to a landmarked African American church that needs to make repairs and alterations, but has limited funds and a largely elderly congregation.

Another project of the DC NOMA Historic Preservation Committee is the development of a history of NOMA founders and their works as part of a commemoration that will be given at the 2008 annual NOMA conference. That conference is being held here in DC at the Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill and will attract hundreds of architects and associated professionals from all over the country and world. This will be an opportunity for the DC Historic Preservation Office and other local preservation organizations and professionals to participate and demonstrate that Washington is truly an inclusive city and that historic preservation is an important component of NOMA.

More information on the organization may be found on the website www.noma.net. ❖

American Heritage Trail from page 2

American Heritage Trail Washington, DC, which identified 200 significant sites," Tregoning said. "Since then, we've provided funding for first five pilot site plaques at the D.C. Recorder of Deeds Building, Ebenezer United Methodist Church, Alain Locke Residence, Black Fashion Museum and the Nichols Avenue Elementary School as well as the 35 sites celebrated at the Founder's Library unveiling," Tregoning added.

Total funding from the Office of Planning through the Historic Preservation Fund Grant of the National Park Service/Department of Interior and D.C. Capital funds exceed \$250,000. Recently OP/HPO inked another contract for \$60,000 with Cultural Tourism DC to produce an additional 28 signs. When that phase is completed there will be 68 signs in place. ❖

COMMUNITY GRANTS DEADLINE EXTENDED

The deadline for the FY 2008 Community Grant applications has been extended to January 18, 2008 at 5 p.m. Congress has yet to pass the federal budget for FY 2008 and until committed and verified funding from the Department of the Interior's National Historic Preservation Fund is in place, the Historic Preservation Office has no way to predict an amount for grant program.

In FY 2007, the HPO awarded \$52,400 to six projects (see <http://planning.dc.gov>). Program funding for FY 2008 could range from \$25,000 to \$75,000 depending on the final budget approved by Congress.

Even with the delay, we still anticipate a start date of April 1, 2008 for all awarded projects. Questions regarding the program should be directed to operations and grants manager Bruce Yarnall at (202) 442-8835 or bruce.yarnall@dc.gov. ❖

PRESERVATION PRESS QUOTE

"What has surprised me...is what an incredible resource the Historic Preservation Office's staff is. And people get their expertise without paying for it, essentially. You get very good advice, and it often saves applicants a lot of money."

Nancy MacWood, ANC Commissioner quoted in *The Current Newspapers Real Estate Guide 2007*, September 19, 2007. ❖

BOASBERG REAPPOINTED

Teresh Boasberg, Chairman of the Historic Preservation Review Board, was re-nominated to the post by Mayor Adrian Fenty in September. A Council hearing on September 26 preceded a unanimous confirmation vote. ❖

2007 MAYORS AWARD PHOTOS POSTED

Photos of the October 9 Mayor's Awards for Historic Preservation held at the Atlas Theater on H Street NE are now available on the web at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/14880935@N03/sets/72157602370661970/>. ❖

FY 2008 WORK PLAN APPROVED

The District of Columbia Historic Preservation Office annual work plan for federal programs administered through the National Historic Preservation Act was reviewed and approved by the Historic Preservation Review Board on November 15. The plan details how the office anticipates meeting the five-year D.C. Historic Preservation Plan's three major goals:

- Increase the Identification and Recognition of Historic Properties
- Protect Historic Properties, and
- Capitalize on Historic Properties and Heritage Preservation.

The full text of the work plan is posted on the HPO website at: http://planning.dc.gov/planning/cwp/view,a,1284,q,570832,planningNav_GID,1706,planningNav,33515.aspx

Printed copies may be requested by contacting Bruce Yarnall at (202) 442-8835 or bruce.yarnall@dc.gov. ❖

NEW DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA LISTINGS IN NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

April through December, 2007

Cavalier Apartment Building (Hilltop Manor)

3500 14th Street, NW

Listed July 26, 2007

Central Heating Plant

325 13th Street, SW

Listed July 7, 2007

Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company Warehouse and Repair Facility

111 North Capitol Street, NE

Listed May 14, 2007

Engine Company 12

1626 North Capitol Street, NW

Listed June 6, 2007

Engine Company 17

1235 Monroe Street, NE

Listed June 6, 2007

Engine Company 21

1763 Lanier Place, NW

Listed June 27, 2007

Engine Company 23

2119 G. Street, NW

Listed June 6, 2007

Engine Company 26 (Old)

2715 22nd Street, NE

Listed August 8, 2007

Engine Company 29

4811 MacArthur Boulevard, NW

Listed June 6, 2007

Federal Home Loan Bank Board Building

101 Indiana Avenue, NW

Listed July 3, 2007

Foxhall Village Historic District

Bounded by Reservoir Road, NW, Glover-
Archbold Park, P Street, NW, and Foxhall Road, NW

Listed November 29, 2007

Grant, Ulysses S. School

2130 G Street, NW

Listed May 22, 2007

Montrose Park

R Street & Lovers' Lane, NW (Reservation 324)

Listed November 15, 2007

Newton Theater

3601-3611 12th Street, NE

Listed June 27, 2007



Photo Credit: DCHPO

*Engine Company 21 at 1763 Lanier Place, NW,
was listed on the National Register of Historic Places
on June 27.*

Social Security Administration Building (Wilbur Cohen Building)

330 Independence Avenue, SW

Listed July 6, 2007

Truck Company F

1336-38 Park Road, NW

Listed June 6, 2007

Truck House No. 13

1342 Florida Avenue, NW

Listed June 6, 2007

Uline Ice Company Plant and Arena Complex

1132, 1140, and 1146 3rd Street, NE

Listed May 17, 2007

United States Department of Agriculture South Building

1351 C Street, SW

Listed July 5, 2007

United States Public Health Service Building

1951 Constitution Avenue, NW

Listed July 5, 2007

United States Railroad Retirement Board Building (Mary Switzer Building)

330 C Street, SW

Listed July 6, 2007

U.S. Courthouse of the District of Columbia (E. Barrett Prettyman Courthouse)

333 Constitution Avenue, NW

Listed July 5, 2007

Boundary Expansions and Additional Documentation

Greater Fourteenth Street Historic District

Expanded District and Additional
Documentation approved May 15, 2007

Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site

Additional Documentation approved
October 12, 2007

Sixteenth Street Historic District

Expanded District listed July 11, 2007

Union Station and Columbus Fountain

Massachusetts, Louisiana & Delaware Avenues &
1st Street, NW

Expanded District and Additional

Documentation approved July 11, 2007

Memorials in Washington, DC

*The following memorials were added under the umbrella
Multiple Property Document - Memorials in
Washington, DC.*

Asbury, Francis, Memorial

16th & Mt. Pleasant Streets, NW (Reservation
309-B)

Listed October 11, 2007

Cuban Friendship Urn

Ohio Drive at 14th Street Bridge, SW
(Reservation 332)

Listed October 11, 2007

Gibbons, James, Cardinal

16th Street & Park Road, NW (Reservation 309-G)

Listed October 11, 2007

Gompers, Samuel, Memorial

Massachusetts Avenue 10th & L Streets, NW
(Reservation 69)

Listed October 11, 2007

Hahneman, Samuel, Monument

Massachusetts & Rhode Island Avenues at Scott
Circle, NW (Reservation 64)

Listed October 11, 2007

Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth, Memorial

Connecticut Avenue, M & 18th Streets, NW
(Reservation 150)

Listed October 11, 2007

Marconi, Guglielmo, Memorial

16th & Lamont Streets, NW (Reservation 309A)

Listed October 11, 2007

Newlands, Francis Griffith, Memorial Fountain

Chevy Chase Circle, Connecticut & Western
Avenues, NW (Reservation 335A)

Listed October 11, 2007

Temperance Fountain

7th Street & Indiana Avenue, NW

Listed October 11, 2007

Titanic Memorial

SW Waterfront Park, Water & P Streets, SW
(Reservation 717)

Listed October 11, 2007

Webster, Daniel, Memorial

Massachusetts & Rhode Island Avenues at Scott
Circle, NW (Reservation 62)

Listed October 11, 2007

De San Martin, General Jose, Memorial

Virginia Avenue & 20th Street, NW (Reservation 106)

Listed October 11, 2007